



GARDEN COURT CHAMBERS

Nick Wrack

YEAR OF CALL: 1997



Nick is a highly-regarded and much sought-after senior leading junior who defends in serious and complex criminal cases, including serious violence, firearms, high-value fraud, and large-scale drugs conspiracies.

"Nick is a brilliant barrister; it is a pleasure to work with him. He is a great advocate and a great tactician, great eye on the evidence and speaks up for his clients! I recommend him highly.

SHILA KESHVARI, PARTNER, EDWARD FAIL BRADSHAW & WATERSON

Nick Wrack was lead counsel in a paper-heavy, five-handed, stolen car parts case at Leicester crown court. The rapport he built with a nervous client, and his grasp of the details in the case was second to none. His closing speech was, by common consent, a text book example of jury advocacy at its best.

"Nick is an impressive brief – bright, tenacious, approachable. He is tactically astute and has gravitas in Court. Judges listen to him and the CPS can't ignore him..."

LYDIA DAGOSTINO, KELLYS SOLICITORS

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CRIMINAL DEFENCE

Nick is a highly regarded and much sought-after senior leading junior who acts in serious and complex criminal cases, including serious violence, firearms, high-value fraud, and large-scale drugs conspiracies to import/supply.

NOTABLE CASES

R v Y (Birmingham Crown Court) 2024

Client alleged to be money laundering cash in respect of multi-million-pound cigarette smuggling conspiracy. Not Guilty.

R v C (Woolwich Crown Court) 2024

Client accused of possession of a firearm (found in a bedroom at his flat) and of large-scale Class A drugs conspiracy (cocaine found in same bedroom). Not Guilty.

R v S (Central Criminal Court) 2023

Nick was leading counsel for defendant accused of perverting the course of justice for her husband who was convicted of a double murder.

R v T Hussain (Sheffield Crown Court) 2023

Nick was leading counsel for defendant in a multi-handed Class A drugs supply conspiracy (Operation Ringtail), involving the importation and distribution over six months of 15,900kg cocaine, with a street value of £1.59 billion.

R v H (Wood Green Crown Court) 2023

Client alleged to be organiser of large-scale cocaine supply using Encrochat phone. Hung jury.

R v Polat (Southwark Crown Court) 2023

Nick was leading counsel for defendant in £1.3 million bank fraud, arranging over 42 fraudulent bank loads for clients of her finance company.

R v E (Snaresbrook Crown Court) 2022

Client accused of marital rapes. Hung jury. Prosecution offered no evidence prior to retrial.

R v C (Leicester Crown Court) 2022

Nick was leading counsel for client alleged to be part of a multi-handed conspiracy to sell parts from stolen cars worth well in excess of £4.5 million. Not Guilty.

R v SA (Southwark Crown Court) 2021

Client alleged to be involved in £3 million diamond fraud conspiracy. Trial halted for prosecution disclosure failings six weeks into the prosecution case. Not Guilty. Nick was led by Adrian Eissa KC. See BBC report [here](#).

R v Murat (Woolwich Crown Court) 2021

Nick was for the main defendant in seven-week trial, accused of being head of conspiracies to import and transfer firearms. Acquitted of importation.

R v F (Snaresbrook Crown Court) 2020

Client accused of rape of ex-wife. Hung jury. Prosecution offered no evidence prior to re-trial.

R v JM (Wood Green Crown Court) 2020

Client acquitted of causing death by dangerous driving.

R v Jones (Nottingham Crown Court) 2020

Client accused of possession and transferring of firearms, supplying drugs and money laundering in wide-ranging, multi-handed trial.

R v KB (Central Criminal Court) 2019

Client accused of joint enterprise attempted murder when in company of co-defendant who fired shot through neck of another. Co-defendant convicted. Nick's client found Not Guilty.

R v AK (Kingston-Upon-Thames Crown Court) 2019

Nick was leading counsel for the first defendant, said to be central to a wide-ranging fraud involving multiple defendants, involving false applications for visas. The case went to a second trial (jury discharged after ten weeks in first trial as a result of submissions made by Nick) and client was found Not Guilty after a further five-week trial.

R v MM Hussain(Snaresbrook Crown Court) 2019

Nick was leading counsel for client accused of conspiracy to cause GBH in an inter-gang feud. Hung jury.

R v Aga (Hove Crown Court) 2018

Nick was leading counsel for his client who was alleged to have acted in a 'leading role' in a drugs conspiracy valued between £6–9 million, and money laundering. Seven days into the trial, the prosecution accepted a plea on the basis of 'significant role'. Client sentenced to 13 years (10 + 3 for money laundering), compared with those who had pleaded at PTPH, who each received 16 years each [starting point of 24].

R v MB (Southwark Crown Court) 2018

Nick was leading counsel for a client alleged to be a central organiser of an international fraud covering Asia, North America and Europe, worth £3.1 million. His client was acquitted at Southwark Crown Court after a ten-week trial. Not Guilty.

R v M (Isleworth Crown Court) 2018

Client charged with s.18 wounding. Listed twice for trial. Nick argued successfully for disclosure which forced the Crown to offer no evidence.

R v CH (Southwark Crown Court) 2018

61-year old client charged with male rape in 1980 when he was a soldier. Listed twice for trial. Nick argued successfully for disclosure which forced the Crown to offer no evidence. Not Guilty.

R v Yousaf (Birmingham Crown Court) 2018

Attempted murder. Three-handed stabbing in broad daylight. Covered in [Birmingham Mail](#).

R v MJ (Nottingham Crown Court) 2018

Client acquitted of kidnap and possession of a firearm.

R v KB (Maidstone Crown Court) 2017 and 2018 (retrial)

Nick represented one of 18 accused of an armed robbery involving a mass attack on a travellers' site in Kent. After two long trials (13 weeks and 7 weeks) in which the juries were unable to reach verdicts, the Crown offered no evidence. Nick's client was one of only 3 out of 18 defendants to be found not guilty. Covered in [Mirror](#).

R v JB (Leeds Crown Court) 2018 & 2017

Client alleged to be head of multiple drug conspiracies. Also charged with money-laundering. Defendant alleged police fabrication of evidence. Acquitted of all charges after three trials.

R v AK (Central Criminal Court) 2017

Defendant accused of possessing an article likely to be useful to a person committing a terrorist offence, namely an article on how to make bombs. Defendant found Not Guilty after trial.

R v LG (Central Criminal Court) 2017

Breaches of Terrorism Prevention And Investigation Measures (TPIM) Notice (formerly terrorist Control Order).

R v Ellison & others (Southwark Crown Court) 2017

Defendant accused with others of false imprisonment and sexual torture including assault by anal penetration. Defendant, victim and one other witness all had intermediaries.

R v I (Sheffield Crown Court) 2016

Defendant was one of ten accused of Violent Disorder when they protested against the far-right in Rotherham. They argued that they acted in self-defence and were all found Not Guilty by the jury. [BBC coverage](#).

R v HO (Blackfriars Crown Court) 2016

Defendant & two others charged with attempted murder and s.18 wounding. Client accepted presence at the attack. Found Not Guilty of both charges.

R v CE (Inner London Crown Court) 2016

Defendant charged with unusual offence of engaging in sexual activity (sexual intercourse with a woman) in the presence of a child, for purpose of sexual gratification. Defendant found Not Guilty after trial.

R v RJ (Reading Crown Court) 2016

Defendant accused of multiple rapes of two girlfriends. Nick successfully argued for disclosure of telephone material which resulted in the Crown offering no evidence and client being found Not Guilty of all charges.

R v Shaibu (Central Criminal Court) 2015

Attempted murder.

R v Morley (Bristol Crown Court) 2015

Defendant charged with large-scale fraud involving second-hand, top-of-the-range car dealership, with multiple victims.

***R v Baybasin (Liverpool Crown Court) 2014* [\[2014\] 1 Cr. App. R. 19 \[2014\] Crim. L.R. 528](#)**

Appeal case involving jury irregularities and local practice directions arising out of large-scale drug conspiracy (see 2011 case below).

R v P (Manchester Crown Court) 2013

Nick was leading counsel for a defendant alleged to be the mastermind behind £2.5 million credit card fraud in which sophisticated software was used to by-pass banking security. Said by prosecution to be ‘unprecedented’.

R v Harrison (Manchester Crown Court) 2013

Defendant pleaded guilty to involvement in a conspiracy to supply Class A drugs. Nick won a trial of issue (Newton Hearing) limiting his involvement to a lesser role, meaning a significantly reduced sentence was imposed.

R v Burke (Central Criminal Court) 2013

Defendant accused of impersonating murdered woman in order to defraud her.

R v Townsend (Central Criminal Court) 2013

Defendant charged with violent disorder arising out of a gang fight at Westfield shopping centre in East London, during which one person was murdered. Crown offered no evidence against defendant before close of prosecution case following Nick’s cross-examination of prosecution witnesses.

R v Imran Mahmood (Central Criminal Court) 2013

Preparing acts of terrorism, said to be discussing plans to target the town of Royal Wootton Bassett.

R v Khobaib Hussain (Woolwich Crown Court) 2013

Preparing acts of terrorism: travelling to Pakistan for terrorist training.

***R v Farmer* [2013] EWCA Crim 126**

Nick represented many students arrested during the 2010 student fees protests. This was one of only two trials when his client was convicted. In this case, the conviction was overturned on appeal.

R v Baybasin (Liverpool Crown Court) 2011

Nick was leading counsel for the main defendant in one of Britain's biggest ever drugs importation cases, which involved 40 tonnes of cocaine with a street value of £4 billion. [Mirror coverage](#).

R v BX (Central Criminal Court)

Breaching a terrorist control order.

R v Joe Glenton (Court of Appeal) [2010] EWCA Crim 930

In 2010, Nick represented soldier charged with desertion for refusing to do a second tour of duty in Afghanistan. Following substantial written submissions challenging the legality of the war the charge was dropped to being Absent Without Leave (AWOL). Nick features prominently in Joe's book [Soldier Box](#). Covered in [Telegraph](#).

Iraq v Danny Fitzsimons [2009]

In August 2009, Nick went to Baghdad, Iraq for a week in extremely hazardous conditions in an attempt to get his client Danny Fitzsimons brought back to the UK. Fitzsimons, a British security worker, was facing the death penalty for the murder of two co-security workers. Whilst Nick was sitting in his hotel lobby in Baghdad, it was hit by bomb blasts that killed over 100 people across the city. Covered by [Independent](#).

R v Saleem and others (Kingston Crown Court)

Defendants charged with incitement to commit terrorism (murder) abroad and incitement to raise funds for terrorism.

R v S (F) and A(S) (Central Criminal Court) [2009] 1 Cr. App. R. 18

Dealt with the privilege against self-incrimination in the context of sections 49 and 53 Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. The trial involved a conspiracy to breach a terrorist control order and a refusal to hand over an encrypted computer file.

R v Tirnaveanu [2007] 2 Cr. App. R. 23 (Canterbury Crown Court)

Nick was leading counsel in a trial and re-trial that lasted over five months. It dealt with allegations of fraud, forgery, deception and immigration offences. In the course of the proceedings, Nick successfully submitted that the trial judge should withdraw from the case on the basis of apparent bias against his client.

BACKGROUND

Nick joined Garden Court Chambers in November 2013 after practising at Tooks Chambers. Prior to coming to the Bar, Nick worked as a journalist and then editor for the socialist newspaper Militant.

EDUCATION

MA (Cantab)

LLB (Cantab)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Criminal Bar Association (CBA)

Fraud Lawyers Association

Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers

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